RECEIVED

JAN 2.4 2003

TC 1700

HEAT STATES

JAN 1 7 2003 .

Docket No.: 59516-013

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Avetik R. HARUTYUNYAN, et al.

Serial No.: 09/880,798

: Group Art Unit: 1754

Filed: June 15, 2001

Examiner: Peter Lish

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING CARBONACEOUS

ARTICLES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The following is a response to the restriction requirement mailed January 2, 2003 notifying Applicant of a restriction pursuant to 35 USC 121 and requiring the election of one of two groups of claims:

Group I - claims 1-9, drawn to an apparatus, or

Group II - claims 10-20, drawn to a method.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group II, claims 10-12, drawn to a method, with traverse.

Reconsideration of the election requirement is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to examine both groups of claims as it appears that an examination of the subject matter of Group II would most likely uncover relevant art for the subject matter of the claims of Group I. Thus, the burden on the Examiner would not be as great as compared to the Applicants' burden of prosecuting two applications.

09/880,798

Accordingly, reconsideration and examination of all the claims in the application at this time are respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Daniel Bucca, Ph.D. Registration No. 42,368

600 13th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005-3096 (202) 756-8000 DB:ajb

Facsimile: (202) 756-8087

Date: January 17, 2003